

REMARKS

New claims 19-22 have been added.

Claims 1, 13, and 18 have been amended.

Claims 1-22 are pending in the application..

Paragraph [0001] of the specification has been amended to correct the Department of Energy Contract Number. No new matter has been added.

The Office stated that the originally filed oath or declaration was defective. In the course of correcting the declaration, it was discovered an error was made without deceptive intent in the inventorship at the time the application was filed. The correct inventorship is: David R. Hall; H. Tracy Hall, Jr.; David S. Pixton; Kline Bradford; and Joe Fox. Attached herein is a new Oath/Declaration in compliance with 37 CFR 1.67(a) signed by all the inventors, as corrected.

The Office objected to the abstract line 5 for having the term "comprises." The abstract has been amended now to replace "comprises" with "has." No new matter has been added.

The Office objected to claim 18 because the term "first conductor" should have stated "outer conductor." Claim 18 has been amended now to correct this informality. No new matter has been added.

Claim 13 has also been amended now to correct a minor informality.

The Office rejected claims 1-3, 5-8, 10-11, and 17-18 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,355,720 to Bailey (patent '720). Claim 1 has been amended now to limit the outer conductor to have a "high strength material adjacent a highly conductive material," which is not shown nor described by Bailey (patent '720).

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Since Bailey (patent '720) does not teach an outer conductor with a "high strength material adjacent a highly conductive material," Applicants believe that claim 1 is no longer anticipated by Bailey (patent '720) and is therefore allowable. Since claims 2-3, 5-8, 10-11, and 17-18 all depend from allowable base claim 1, Applicants believe these claims are now also allowable.

The Office rejected claim 4 as unpatentable over Bailey (patent '720) in view of Ono et al U.S. Patent Publication 2003/0168240 (publication '240). Neither Bailey (patent '720) nor Ono (publication '240) teach an outer conductor with a "high strength material adjacent a highly conductive material." Applicants believe that since dependent claim 4 depends from now allowable base claim 1 it is also allowable over the above references.

The Office rejected claim 16 as being unpatentable over Bailey (patent '720). Applicants believe that since claim 16 depends from now allowable base claim 1, claim 16 is now also allowable.

The Office rejected claims 9 and 12-15 as being unpatentable over Bailey (patent '720) and in view of the Applicants Own Admission of Prior Art (AOAPA). Applicants believe that since claims 9 and 12-15 depend from now allowable base claim 1, these claims are now allowable in view of Bailey (patent '720) and the (AOAPA).

Applicants have added new claims 19-22. New independent claim 19 has the limitations of the originally filed claim 12 with the additional limitation that the dielectric material is further compressed by the interference created between the inner and outer conductors. Applicants believe that new claim 19 is novel and non-obvious over Bailey '720 in view of the AOAPA, as maintained by the Office in the rejection of the original claim 12. Neither reference discloses the new limitation of "compressing the dielectric material" in addition to the other claim limitations. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that new claim 19 is allowable over the Bailey '720

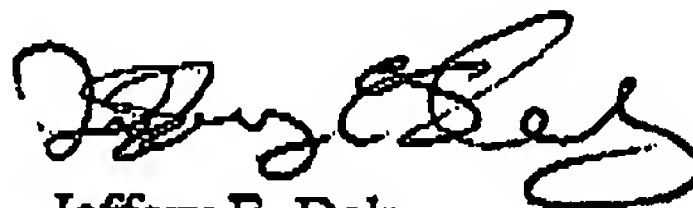
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Applicants also believe that new dependent

in condition for allowance. Accordingly Applicants respectfully request that a ~~final~~ ^{Final} Allowance be issued in this case.

Please charge Deposit Account 180584 a total amount of \$230: \$130.00 for the fee required under 37 CFR 1.16(f) for a late Oath/Declaration, plus \$100, the fee required under 37 CFR 1.16(i) for 2 claims in excess of 20. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required at any time during the prosecution of this application without specific authorization, or credit any overpayment, to the same Deposit Account 180584. If there are any questions concerning the above, please contact the undersigned at 281-878-5658.

Respectfully submitted,



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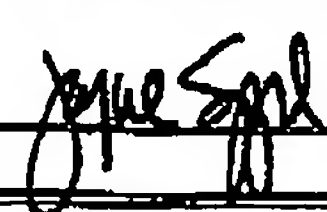
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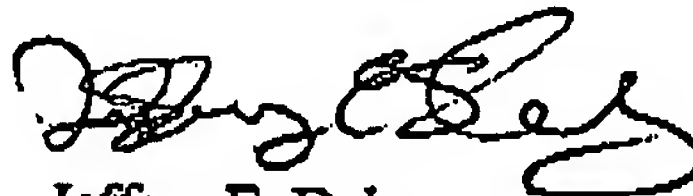


patent, AOAPA, and all the other cited references. Applicants also believe that new dependent claims 20-22 are also allowable, as they depend from allowable base claim 19.

Applicants respectfully submit that since claims 1-22 are now allowable, the application is now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

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